DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 458 707 EA 031 425

AUTHOR	Duffy, Francis M., Ed.; Dale, Jack D., Ed.
TITLE	Creating Successful School Systems: Voices from the University, the Field, and the Community.
ISBN	ISBN-1-929024-22-3
PUB DATE	2001-00-00
NOTE	300p.
AVAILABLE FROM	Christopher-Gordon Publishers, Inc., 1502 Providence Hwy, Suite 12, Norwood, MA 02062 (Order #2013, $44.95). Tel: 800-934-8322 (Toll free); Fax: 781-762-2110; Web site: http://www.christopher-gordon.com.
PUB TYPE	Books (010) -- Collected Works - General (020)
EDRS PRICE	Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS	*Academic Achievement; Academic Standards; Accountability; *Educational Change; Educational Environment; Elementary Secondary Education; *Leadership; Public Schools; *School Culture; School Districts; Standards; *Systems Analysis; Teacher Effectiveness

ABSTRACT

Contributors to this book were asked to organize their chapters around the following question: "What do you think it will take to redesign entire school systems for success in the 21st century?" The book is therefore about redesigning entire school districts. The subtheme that emerged in the chapters was redesigning school districts as organic systems: a living, evolving entity within its community. School districts must be responsive, yet provide proactive leadership in developing critical educational services for the community. School systems must reflect community, yet also market the value of the services they provide. School systems are, therefore, like miniature ecosystems. The consensus of contributors is that educators must shift their thinking from the bureaucratic, industrial models of the past to the dynamic organic models of the future. The path to systematic school improvement is marked by high levels of participation and involvement of teachers and staff. Systematic improvement can occur only if stakeholders work together to define a desirable future for their districts, collaborate creatively to solve perplexing puzzles that entangle their thinking and practice, and design implementation plans that ensure success. (Contains 177 references.) (DFR)

Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made
from the original document.